



Milwaukee County Board Chairwoman

 **MARCELIA NICHOLSON**

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District 10



Fall-Winter
2022

The New District 10



District 10 includes part of the Third Ward and goes up to the northwest part of Milwaukee into Midtown. In the new district, you will find the following county parks: Johnsons Park, King Park, Sherman Park, Tiefenthaler Park, and Zeidler Union Square.

County Board Meetings Enhanced

This year, I authored a resolution to invest in improvements to our County Board meeting room that would ensure health safety and greater public access for County Board Meetings. On September 29, the Board held its first ever hybrid meeting in the historic County Board Room, where Supervisors received a presentation on the County Executive's 2023 Recommended budget.



Dear Neighbors,

It is my continued honor to serve as your representative on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. I may be a new face to many of you, as district boundaries changed due to our decennial redistricting process last fall. This summer, I have taken the opportunity to meet constituents, community organizations, and leaders in the new District 10. I look forward to continuing my relationships with those I represent throughout my term.

I was born and raised in the 53206 ZIP code and am a product of Milwaukee Public Schools. This upbringing has greatly informed my work on behalf of county residents. It is my firm belief that local government has the power to improve our daily lives and transform communities. My work as a union activist, community organizer, and educator pushed me to run for office and it continues to influence my policies and community work. I continue to be an advocate for vital county services and cultural amenities such as our parks, transit system, health and community support programs.

This April, my colleagues unanimously reelected me as Chairwoman of the Milwaukee County Board. As the Chairwoman and your Supervisor, I have been committed to collaborating with partners to ensure that Milwaukee County is the healthiest County in Wisconsin. My work has been a result of bringing individuals and organizations from our community to the table.

I always welcome feedback from residents and encourage all to reach out to my district office. To receive regular updates on key county issues and district event, sign up for my e-newsletter at county.milwaukee.gov/Nicholson.

Queridos Vecinos,

Es un honor para mí servir como su representante en la Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Milwaukee. Invito a todos a comunicarse con la oficina de mi distrito para que podamos mantenerlos informados sobre cualquier nuevo desarrollo en el distrito. Juntos y a través de la colaboración podemos cuidar de nuestra comunidad.

Best Regards/Saludos,

Marcelia Nicholson

Marcelia Nicholson

Milwaukee County Board Chairwoman, District 10

Milwaukee County Recommended Budget Avoids Major Service Cuts, But Fiscal Cliff Looms

Milwaukee County is in the midst of another budget season. On Thursday, September 29 County Executive David Crowley presented his \$1.37 billion 2023 Recommended Budget.

Direct revenue such as golf fees, beer garden sales, and venue rentals make up the largest portion of revenues at 27.6%. Property taxes make up 22.8%. Other major sources of funding in this budget include sales taxes, federal and state revenues, and bond and note proceeds.

This year's budget was aided by some good fortune in a couple of areas which averted major cuts and allowed for some targeted investments that align with the County's strategic plan. Robust growth in the county's current 0.5% sales tax helped stave off service cuts. \$25 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds filled a gap in mass transit funding for this year, though the County Executive did include reduced service for routes 34, 52, 88, and 92.

While major service cuts have been avoided for another year, without a sustainable, long-term solution to its growing structural deficit Milwaukee County will have no local dollars for services such as parks, transit, or many of the human services residents rely on. Milwaukee County continues to work alongside the Move Forward MKE coalition to pursue a 1 percent local option sales tax, to be paired with property tax relief. The 1 percent sales tax is the county's best option to ensure the future of these services.

The County Board's budget process is guided by guiding principles of racial equity, preparation, collaboration, sustainability, and decorum lead by me. These guiding principles help create a constructive, focused, and respectful process that ensures all voices are heard.



Power to the Voters

This year, I sponsored a resolution transferring \$50,000 to the Office of the County Clerk and the Election Commission to educate residents on the voting process, supplement voter registration, and empower citizens to vote. As your representative, it is my goal to provide effective voter education and to encourage all residents to participate in the electoral process.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Initiative



This summer, I had the opportunity to take our mission of achieving racial equity on the road across Wisconsin. In 2019, I authored legislation that made Milwaukee County the first in the nation to declare racism a public health crisis. Hundreds of cities and counties across the nation have since followed suit and we continue to make strides in our vision to achieve racial equity and become

the healthiest county in the state. As we continue to pursue this goal, we engage partners across the State of Wisconsin.

Through our partnership with the Wisconsin Counties Association, I collaborated with Brown County Executive



Troy Streckenbach to educate policymakers, administrators, and human resource professionals from counties across the state "to constructively work toward positive change against systemic racism and inequality through the creation and implementation of constructive policies addressing inequality."

From Hayward to Pewaukee, we traveled all corners of the state in August to demonstrate practical ways to implement Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives in every single county. We reached nearly 100 individuals--many of whom wanted to know how they could replicate Milwaukee County's actions back home. This is a testament to the important work we do every single day at the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. I was incredibly fortunate to be able to see many different cities in Wisconsin in August and to plant the seeds of equity across the state! There is still no place quite like Milwaukee, and I look forward to what more we will do together here at home.

Youth Commission

I proudly authored a resolution to reinstate the Milwaukee County Youth Commission. It is more important than ever to offer young people in our community a real seat at the table to shape policies and programs that impact their day to day lives. The commission will be made up of at least 20 high school-aged youth with at least one commissioner representing each supervisory district. I look forward to engaging with our youth and encouraging civic engagement.

Chairwoman Nicholson Around Milwaukee County

Chairwoman Meet & Greets

I hosted Meet & Greets to connect with residents from District 10 and around Milwaukee County. It was a pleasure to speak with residents at Sherman Park and at Cathedral Square during the Bastille Days celebration. Thank you to everyone who came out to ask me questions and discuss important county issues. I look forward to continuing to host events that allow me the opportunity to have one-on-one conversations with residents



Municipal Tour

I had a great time leading a tour of Milwaukee institutions with Mayor Cavalier Johnson and State Senator LaTonya Johnson. It was a great opportunity to discuss how the county, city, and state can work together to meet the needs of our residents. I look forward to continued collaboration with leaders at all levels of government to find solutions such as a sustainable, dedicated revenue stream that will allow us to provide funding for services like our parks and transit system.



Parks Symposium

I had the pleasure of speaking at the Friends of the Domes annual symposium. Park friends groups are vital partners in our efforts to protect and sustain our beloved parks system. Our parks are treasures, especially for people like my former 4th grade students who used Riverside Park to step into a new magical world filled with fresh air, tall trees, and dark soil.



City of Festivals

This summer, I enjoyed attending festivals including Juneteenth Day, Polish Fest, Croatian Fest, Labor Fest, Serbian Days, and Fiesta Mexicana. It was an honor to celebrate the history and traditions of so many different cultures that all make Milwaukee County a great place to live. Through these celebrations, I connected with constituents from all around the county.



A Day with Me

Photographer Lee Matz of the Milwaukee Independent captured photos over the course of one of my busy days. The photos were published alongside an essay about my background and work as Chairwoman. I encourage everyone to view the photo series and essay Marcelia Nicholson: A Day in Photos with the Chairwoman of the County Board of Supervisors at www.tinyurl.com/MarceliaNicholson.



Walks for Education

It was my pleasure to serve as the Grand Marshall for the 37th Annual United Negro College Fund Walk/Run for Education. I'm proud of the success of UNCF over the years here in Milwaukee. I thank them for their commitment to this community.

On that same day I was able to hand out medals to all the amazing children who crossed the finish line at the 15th annual Milwaukee Public Schools and Milwaukee Recreation "Run Back to School". Hundreds of runners, volunteers, community leaders, teachers, and students gathered for a 5k run and walk.





MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD CHAIRWOMAN

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Energy Assistance is Available Now

Through the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program, qualified Milwaukee County residents can receive a one time annual payment to make your heating and electric bills more affordable.

Go to **KeepWarmMKE.org** to check if you qualify.



First Annual Sherman Park Harvest Fest

On Saturday, October 29th, I collaborated with Milwaukee County Parks, Milwaukee Parks Foundation, Boys and Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee at Sherman Park, Sherman Park Community Association, and Friends of Sherman Park to bring the inaugural Sherman Park Harvest Fest. It was amazing to see the overwhelming support for this positive afternoon of family friendly activities, music, and fun at Sherman Park.

Ten food vendors attended the event including Pete's Pops and the Milwaukee County Parks Vintage beer truck. Eleven resource booths were present to provide attendees with lots of candy and information on emergency assistance, transportation services, behavioral health services, and more. Twenty-two raffle winners won free ticket packages donated by the Milwaukee Bucks, Milwaukee County Zoo, Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee Parks Department and Milwaukee Art Museum.

The Boys and Girls Club at Sherman Park provided 150 youth with free Halloween costumes and my office was able to provide 220 free meals to attendees.

Sherman Park is one of Milwaukee County's treasures, and it was amazing to enjoy it with its neighbors.

